EXHIBIT A

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3	RECORDED INTERVIEW BETWEEN
4	SPECIAL AGENT FBI1
5	SPECIAL AGENT FBI 2
6	WALTINE NAUTA
7	and ATTY
8	and ATTI
9	Tiles Newton Male (TDT Televolies December 1) 2022 OF 26
10	File: Nauta, Walt (FBI Interview Recording_1) 2022-05-26
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SA FBI2 : -- bar, we can step out. If you, you know, would like to step out and use the restroom, get more water, whatever, just ask us.

MR. NAUTA: Okay.

SA FBI2 : Not a problem.

Yeah. So I'll, I'll go over, like you said, the admin, voluntariness. You know, you can leave at any time. You don't have to answer a particular question You know, if you want to stay and just not answer a certain one that you're uncomfortable with, that's all fine. It's fair game. Everything we're going to talk about is related to a sensitive investigation, so the way -- at least just kind of like our promise to you, our intention going forward is to never tell anyone else that we speak with, like in -- across from the table, that we spoke to you, to include things that you say. We're not, we're not going to attribute it to you. And the only thing we ask is what we talk about here, aside from speaking to counsel, you do the same thing, kind of just keep it amongst ourselves. biggest reason is these type of matters that we work, the people involved reputations are usually at stake, and so, one, it, it affects our ability to do, like, a thorough and accurate and truthful investigation, but at the same time, we also don't want peoples reputations to be tarnished on --

(00:08:15)

SA FBI1 : -- on speculation and unfounded things because they get leaked out before they're -- before we actually get a chance to actually just get all the facts.

You know what I mean?

MR. NAUTA: Gotcha.

SA FBII: So, again, I can't make you do that, but it's just an ask for, like, professional courtesy kind of thing. Do you have any questions about that?

MR. NAUTA: No.

that we have to tell you as a part of our, of our spiel is that because this is an a -- because this is a true FBI investigation, everything you has -- you tell us has to be truthful, no lying or anything like that, otherwise that'll become a false statement, and if you were going to Google it, it is 18 U.S.C. 1001. So, like, no lying to the FBI, no false official statements, things like that. Any questions?

MR. NAUTA: No.

SA FBI1 : Okay. If you're not sure about something, 'cause if we're going back a ways, you can just say, hey, I'm not sure. I'm not going -- it -- we're not strict like that.

MR. NAUTA: Okay.

SA FBI1 : Like, if you tell me you're not --

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2 SA FBI1: -- they used to call Crypto. I think
3 now they call them Informational Warfare, but--

MR. NAUTA: Yeah. Not many people know how the prestige of, of a Chief is. That's why I asked.

SA FBI1 : Yeah.

SA FBI 2 : Yeah.

SA : Yeah.

MR. NAUTA: Yeah

SA BBI : So -- but so that, that's--

SA FBI 2: You're not allowed to geek out on me right now. (Laughter).

SA FBI1 : Otherwise you're going to start going all Navy talk and --

MR. NAUTA: Not me. I'm not -- yeah, it's -- yeah, it's just -- I don't hear it that often when people know the transition from Chief to Senior Chief.

SA FBI1 : Yeah.

MR. NAUTA: So it's, it's ironic like as I'm doing this. I don't hear that often.

SA FBI1: Yeah. So that kind of lights the question. So you get selected for Senior. Did you -- were you -- just kind of wanted to do some new thing in your life, get out the Navy? Or, like, why didn't you stay in longer in the Navy? You -- since you made Senior.

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SA FBI1: It's the same thing. Let's pretend I didn't ask that. It's the same thing.

MR. NAUTA: Yeah.

SA FBI1: Yeah. He basically called you. But it -- what I -- but you were a culinary specialist, and from my understanding, a lot of like the culinary specialists' ratings are, are kind of working as valets at the White House.

MR. NAUTA: Mm-hm.

SA FBI1: I'll be honest with -- I don't know if it's just because I'm a product of my generation, but I was thinking maybe a Navy chef working for directly for the President, like is he really a Chef, because I kept thinking Under Siege.

MR. NAUTA: I am.

SA FBI1 : Yeah.

MR. NAUTA: I was. I -- that's the story I like to tell people.

SA ERIO : You're a, you're a SEAL, aren't you?

It's okay.

MR. NAUTA: Yeah. It's -- one of, one of the biggest things as a valet as the Navy takes care of, you know, its executive residence that we take care of and the First Family.

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SA FBI1 : On a resort, and from my gathering --

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former President?

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gonna be going to New Jersey too, and then that's -
(indiscernible 00:13:46) thank you for accommodating us and

-- but, but, I mean, the travel and everything. 'Cause you,

you probably go with the President everywhere, right?

MR. NAUTA: Yeah.

SA FBI1 : So every -- even if he's going to, like, a campaign rally or something like that, like, you're just his guy?

MR. NAUTA: Everywhere. Yeah.

SA BRILL WOW.

MR. NAUTA: Everywhere he goes, I go about 95 percent of the time.

SA FBI1 : Okay.

MR. NAUTA: Except for days like this.

SA ERI1 : What? He's not here?

MR. NAUTA: No, I mean, I'm not with him right now.

SA FBII : Oh, no, no. Oh, okay. I just thought you meant like he left you. I'm like, oh, sorry.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: He's waiting for us in the lobby. He's (indiscernible 00:14:15).

SA FBI1 : Okay. We'll be quick. Don't want to leave the man waiting. So do you get to fly with him --

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2 SA FBI1 : -- then like on his --

MR. NAUTA: Everywhere he goes, I go.

SA FBI1: So that must suck when you have to take, like, normal flights. You know, like -- or do you even do that anymore?

MR. NAUTA: No.

SA ERII : No. (Laughs).

MR. NAUTA: It's been a while.

SA FBI1 : You mortals, no.

MR. NAUTA: Yeah, it's been a while. We're

12 | spoiled a little bit, so --

SA FBI1: Oh my goodness. Okay. I'm sorry, I,
I did geek out a little bit, sorry.

SA FBI2 : Yeah. I had to reign him in, cause it was going to start --

SA FBI1 : All right.

SA EBL2: When he started quoting Under Siege, we were done.

SA FBIT: Yeah, okay. So a little bit of the boring stuff. The reason -- what kind of prompted our interest and everything, I don't know if you saw in the news, but in January 17th, 2022, President Trump and his representatives had -- were in negotiations with representatives of the National Archives, and it was --

(00:15:02)

SA FBI1: -- agreed upon on having a certain number of boxes returned to the U.S. Government for Presidential records and things such. So a contract driver, a truck driver arrived a Mar-a-Lago on the 17th, received said boxes, and brought them to NARA. You remember hearing about that in the news?

MR. NAUTA: I do.

SA FBI1: Okay. And then we have an interest in it based on some of the things that -- some anomalies that they found, and have you heard about those in the news?

MR. NAUTA: No.

SA : They, they found that some of the documents had classified information.

MR. NAUTA: Okay.

SA FBII : Again, like, it's -- so we -- some, some documents, whatever, like, we, we don't really know what, what it means. We are kind of attacking this from like a perspective, like, all right, if there were classified documents -- and he's probably tired of hearing me saying this. But if they're were classified documents, you know, were they at least kept in a somewhat controlled environment, could they have been exposed to a foreign intelligence service or something like that, can we, can we answer these type of questions the best that we can?

(00:15:58)

well, if we can't answer, we can't answer, but we give this information to the intelligence community and then the people who own these different pieces of intelligence, they make the decision. Like it's not worth the risk, we've got to shut it down because we don't want, we don't want these people's lives to be on the line, we don't want, like, people to, to know that our ships have these capabilities —

MR. NAUTA: Yeah.

SA FBI1: -- and work around them and all that kind of stuff. Like we just -- we got to change it up and -- or something like that.

MR. NAUTA: Yeah.

SA FBII : But it would be a lot easier if we can tell them for sure X, Y and Z so they know exactly what needs to be shut down and what doesn't, right? So that's kind of the reason why we're looking into this. So that day, on January 15th, do you -- or, I'm sorry, January 17th. Do you -- were you involved at all with these boxes?

MR. NAUTA: I was.

SA FBI1 : Okay. Tell me about that day.

MR. NAUTA: So we moved the boxes, myself and

W1 from, from Pine Hall.

SA FBI1 : I've heard that name before, WI .

(00:17:38)

MR. NAUTA: -- how many. It's in the range of, like, 15 to 17, I believe.

SA FBII: Okay. And that's fine, 'cause if you said something like, no, we, we delivered 30, and the Archives only got 15, I'd be like, okay, now we got -- need to talk to that truck driver, you know? Did you make a stop somewhere? No, I get it. And the fact that you don't check the news -- I mean, we were even talking about it today, like, we're law enforcement, but even, like, with what happened a couple days ago, at some point you have to turn it off, just mentally --

MR. NAUTA: Yeah.

SA FBI1 : -- there's only so much you can --

MR. NAUTA: No, that's kind of how I survive, especially being a retired service member. Like, I was --

SA FBI1 : Yeah.

MR. NAUTA: -- had to always stay, you know, in the middle, so that's why I don't, I don't tune into that as much as I should.

SA FBI1 : That's fair.

MR. NAUTA: One thing I did -- I do want -- it's -- that truck was huge. Like, it was a -- like, it was -- it couldn't come on property.

SA BILL: Like, an 18 or 21, whatever kind of --

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So what does that look like?

Okay. Talk to me a little about that.

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MR. NAUTA: And it's more of a sitting area.

There's a door to the left. When you're standing in the room, there's a door to the left, a door in front of you, two chairs and a coffee table.

SA FBI1 : Okay.

MR. NAUTA: It's like a really small library.

That door to the left, as I like to tell everybody, it's a door of unknown. Like, I've never gone down that door. I don't know where it leads to.

SA FRI : Okay.

MR. NAUTA: And then there's that door that you go through, that he comes out of -- they come out of, it's to another small room, and then that room from there, there's two doors that go into their suites.

SA FRII : I see, okay.

MR. NAUTA: So it's -- Pine Hall is no bigger than half the size of this room.

SA FBII: Just want to make sure, I, I got it right. Or actually, I don't want to -- do you mind kind of just doing a quick square drawing just so I understand? 'Cause you said, you said there's two doors when you're in Pine Hall, and just so I understand it, but one you know goes to the suite, one you don't know where it goes, but I'm assuming there's a third door 'cause you have to enter --

SA FBI1 : Okay. Have you been inside his --

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Okay.

Yeah.

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SA FBI 1

MR. NAUTA:

SA FBI1 : Okay. All right. Let's see. Are there storage rooms -- or who maintains -- who's in control of the property there? 'Cause my understanding that there's, there's your staff, then there's Mar-a-Lago staff and it's different?

Not to your knowledge.

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SA FRI 1

MR. NAUTA:

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No.

Case 9:23-cr 80101-AMC Document 448-1 Entered on FLSD Docket 04/11/2024 Page 32 Qf (00:25:48)1 2 MR. NAUTA: That's the big question. We don't know who runs the storage units there. 3 4 SA FBI 1: Okay. 5 MR. NAUTA: That's the inside of the property. 6 There's multiple people. There's, there's W3 7 SA FBI 1 8 Mm-hm. 9 MR. NAUTA: , and W4 10 SA Okay. FBI 1 11 MR. NAUTA: -- from my understanding, and it's between the three of them. 12 13 SA FBI 2 14 MR. NAUTA: 15 SA Okay. FBI 2 16 MR. NAUTA: And W5 17 FBI 2 Okay. 18 MR. NAUTA: Yeah. Those guys are -- would 19 probably have a better answer of what storage units are on 20 property. 21 EBI1 : Okay. And since you mentioned storage 22 units, so there are storage units on, on property? MR. NAUTA: Yeah. I mean, there's (indiscernible 23 24 00:26:28) rooms, you know. 25 Okay. But as far as you know, no --SA FBI 1 FREE STATE REPORTING, INC. Court Reporting Transcription D.C. Area 301-261-1902

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SA FBI1: -- rooms have held or did hold, like, boxes similar to what you brought, brought onto the truck.

MR. NAUTA: As far as I know, no.

SA FBI1 : All right. So, so to the best of your knowledge, you're saying that those boxes that you brought onto the truck, first time you ever laid eyes on them was just the day of when WI needed you to --

MR. NAUTA: Correct.

SA : -- to take them. Okay. All right.

And you have -- let's see. I might go on. Let me, let me just double check my notes here.

Since you're -- we've heard there's a downtown office. What is -- the downtown, like here in West Palm, or is it -- when they say downtown, do they mean something like Miami?

MR. NAUTA: No. They mean down here in West Palm.

SA BILL: Okay. Do you know the address? I just -- I have no idea how to find this place.

MR. NAUTA: I -- the only thing I know about there is -- I've been there twice I think.

SA FBI 1 : Okay.

MR. NAUTA: --and North Flagler. I couldn't tell you the exact address. If I drove there I probably could find it.

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MR. NAUTA: -- on the pay scale. So if you're a deputy assistant, special assistant, or executive assistant, or senior advisor, that's all how you -- depending on how you get paid. Yeah. It's a learning curve for me. I think at some point I'd just be like, yeah, I forget the titles, too, I just want to know what your name is. So -okay. Let's see. Excuse me. In your time that you've been with the President after the administration, have you ever noticed him have U.S. documents with him? MR. NAUTA: No. : Okay. Even when he's on travel, does he bring documents, any kind of boxes with him when he travels? MR. NAUTA: When we travel, we -- I do carry a box or two with him. SA Mm-hm. FBI 1 And, you know, 100 percent of the time MR. NAUTA: it's, it's majority the same newspapers that I give him that day. SA FBI 1: Okay. MR. NAUTA: Or, or the print-out articles for that day. Were there ever been U.S. documents --SA MR. NAUTA: I don't know.

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just personal items.

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Case 9:23-ci 80101-AMC Document 448-1 Entered on FLSD Docket 04/11/2024 Page 45 of (00:35:22)1 2 MR. NAUTA: -- title --3 SA ERI 2 Okay. MR. NAUTA: -- but, yeah. 4 5 But, but others might use that for SA FBI 2 6 you? 7 MR. NAUTA: Probably, yeah. They just know me as 8 Walt. 9 SA FBI 2 So, so it was you, was Okay. 10 and W7 11 MR. NAUTA: Mm-hm. 12 Where -- do you know where either SA FBI 2 13 one of those individuals are now? 14 MR. NAUTA: I don't know where is. 15 SA FBI 2 2 Okay. 16 is still at MR. NAUTA: I believe W7 17 the White House. 18 : Still at the White House, okay. 19 But not, not employed for the Trump Organization now as far 20 as you know? 21 MR. NAUTA: Yeah, as far as I know. 22 SA : Okay, okay. 23 So I just want to summarize everything 24 just to make sure I'm, I'm hearing it. So you were aware of 25 some boxes in the residence. You don't know necessarily --FREE STATE REPORTING, INC. Court Reporting Transcription D.C. Area 301-261-1902

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SA FBI1: -- if they contained working documents, government documents. But you didn't pack those up. It would have been maybe, like, another group of people, staffers or such, that could have packed it. You're not saying who.

MR. NAUTA: I don't know who it was, yeah.

SA RRI : You don't know who.

MR. NAUTA: Yeah.

SA FBI1 : And from the end of inauguration, while your kind of coming back here and then going back to the White House and eventually you move full time with the staff down in Florida, one day W1 needs you to help W1 move some boxes that you saw 15 to 17 appear at Pine Hall.

MR. NAUTA: Mm-hm.

SA FBI1: And you helped move those boxes into a car, to the truck driver's truck, and he puts them on his truck and drives off. In knowing that we're trying to track the life of these boxes and where they could have been kept and stored and all that kind of stuff --

MR. NAUTA: Mm-hm.

SA : -- do you have any information that could -- that would -- that could help us understand, like, where they were kept, how they were kept, were they secured, were they locked? Something that makes the intelligence --

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SA FBII: -- like, I guess it could have been in the, in the suite. I'm not, I'm not going to take away saying, like, from you that you're saying it was in the suite, but maybe that you're saying that physically based on the things I was able to observe, the suite it could have been in, and I wouldn't -- you know, not have been able to observe it. Like, you know what I mean? Like, does that, does that work for you guys? I'm just--

MR. ATTY: Maybe, maybe this will be helpful. If

-- I'm -- if you had some boxes that you needed to store

somewhere, are there any other areas that we haven't talked

about yet, where, where those would go?

MR. NAUTA: Honestly, he has a lot -- I mean, I've never been through -- as a former President -- not only as a former President, but as a billionaire, I'm still trying to wrap my head around, like, how much property he has.

SA ERII : Mm-hm.

MR. NAUTA: You know, and how everything works so from all the properties here in South Florida, I -- you know, I'm better off just saying I don't know, you know.

SA FBI1 : Okay.

SA FBI 2 : 'Cause there's a lot potentially.

MR. NAUTA: There's a lot. Yeah. There's a lot of properties that I didn't even know he still owns, you --

MR. NAUTA: Correct. Okay. So there was about a --FREE STATE REPORTING, INC. Court Reporting Transcription D.C. Area 301-261-1902 Balt. & Annap. 410-974-0947

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You -- did you witness or, or --

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FBI 2

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in trying to locate items?

MR. NAUTA: No, not to my recollection.

SA ERI2 : Okay.

MR. NAUTA: All I remember is just it was just -- it's -- it was literally chaos.

SA ERI2 : Okay.

MR. NAUTA: And there was -- that's -- if that moving day is what you're asking about, it's just, I, I couldn't remember who was who because it was just me and my counterpart packing all the personal items there and everyone else was just shoving everything in a box.

SA FBI 2 : Okay.

MR. NAUTA: You know.

SA FBI2: Well, what about afterwards, like after the move? So because that happened there were some items that, that should have gone to NARA that didn't, so I know NARA was trying to recover them and they were -- so they were calling and sending emails saying, hey, we need, you know, this item, this thing, and I know they were interacting with staff. So I didn't know if given that it's a small -- I mean, you're -- it's really a small footprint --

MR. NAUTA: Yes.

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2 MR. NAUTA: -- somebody who's taking care of, you know, landscaping --

SA FBI1 : Oh, okay.

MR. NAUTA: -- or you got somebody who's taking care of painting --

SA FBI1 : Electrical work.

MR. NAUTA: Electrical work, yeah. It all depends.

SA SA SEPTION: Yeah, okay. Okay, so the reason why I wanted to summarize everything just to make sure I wasn't mishearing anything 'cause we, we -- you know, we were trying to talk to you for a while before I even reached out to you. Honestly, I -- no one could give me your last name, so it took me a long time to find you, but --

MR. NAUTA: No one gave you my last name?

SA FBII : Well, they all knew you as Walt, you know? And, and, and then when they tried to say it, I guess they were trying to Nauta but they, they didn't know you enough to say it right so what they were giving us was, like, a gargle.

MR. NAUTA: Thanks for saying it right. Yeah.

SA EBIL : Is that the right -- okay. Well, the reason, the reason why -- so we've had to talk to a lot of people, but -- and your name comes up and, and here's the --

(00:44:05)

SA FBI1: -- thing so now we have, so we -- we seem to have a discrepancy here. You know, you're corroborating everything we said about being, being -- you know, helping out in the day, bringing the boxes to a truck driver, you know, 'cause, you know, there's -- imagine, like, there's a lot of people we had talked to who were just -- who, who were able to see that day. There's video cameras everywhere. There's -- whatever. But, I mean, so all that jives, but when it comes to -- when it comes to a storage unit or a storage room on Mar-a-Lago and your presence within it, I'm getting conflicting stories now.

MR. NAUTA: Okay.

SA FBII: And so I just want to make sure just for the record, I mean -- if, if you're telling me absolutely, like, I was -- I never saw a room with these boxes stored in it or any other boxes like them stored in it, correct me if I'm speaking -- but, but if that's, if that's what you want to say, you know, I'll write it down, but that'll be the official record.

MR. NAUTA: Yeah.

SA FBI1: Right? And I just want to make sure. Like, I'm not, I'm not mistaking, right? 'Cause, 'cause the information we got, it was pretty certain. Like you said, there's, like -- there's over a dozen people that's just --

(00:45:24)1 2 : -- that you see walking around the 3 property here, and we've talked to a lot of people. And you 4 were seen in it, in this, in this storage room, so I just 5 want to make sure that I am --6 MR. NAUTA: I mean, there is multiple storage 7 rooms there, you know, that people go in and out, that I've gone in and out. So if you're asking if I gone into a 8 9 certain storage room, there's, there's multiple storage 10 rooms that I've gone into. 11 : But carrying a box that goes to Pine 12 Hall? 13 MR. NAUTA: Yeah. 14 That looks just like the ones that we described. 15 16 MR. NAUTA: All -- a lot of his personal items 17 carry the same -- it's all in the same box. 18 FRI1 : Okay. But now you've looked inside 19 these boxes? 20 MR. NAUTA: His personal items. 21 SA ERI 1 Mm-hm. 22 That's it. MR. NAUTA: 23 : So when you say personal items, 24 what, what are personal items? Maybe we're --

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MR. NAUTA: Hairspray, shampoo --

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D.C. Area 301-261-1902 Balt. & Annap. 410-974-0947 MR. NAUTA: wi is probably is the only one person I know who goes into multiple storage rooms as well.

SA FBI1: Okay, but do you know why?

MR. NAUTA: No.

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SA FBI 1 : Okay. Do you ever -- have you ever asked why?

MR. NAUTA: No.

SA ERII : All right.

SA FBI2 : So when you say multiple storage rooms, what, what are we talking about number-wise?

MR. NAUTA: I don't know number-wise. I couldn't give you --

SA FBI 2 : No?

MR. NAUTA: Yeah.

SA FBI2 : Like, one or two? Five?

MR. NAUTA: (Indiscernible 00:47:19), yeah. You know, a couple storage rooms, and it's -- even the storage unit, you know, in the office, so it all varies.

SA FBI2: Okay. But all these storage rooms can't, can't all be personal items. I mean, they can't all be shampoo. (Indiscernible 00:47:37).

MR. NAUTA: No, you're right, yeah.

SA : Okay. So -- and you might not know 'cause you have not seen the inside of the boxes.

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(00:49:56)1 2 MR. NAUTA: Yeah. 3 If I was at the front door of FBI 1 : 4 Mar-a-Lago, assuming there is a front door, kind of 5 describe, like, how do you get to this storage room. 6 MR. NAUTA: You have to go -- the front door of 7 Mar-a-Lago -- you have to go through reception. 8 SA FBI 1 Mm-hm. 9 MR. NAUTA: Go through the living room. You have 10 to go -- make a right and go to the patio and make your way 11 -- there's two ways you can go, left or right. You go down 12 the steps and then it's underneath the whole living room, personal property room. 13 : Okay. And it's just there's a door 14 15 right there and that's where the storage room is? 16 MR. NAUTA: Correct. 17 Right there? Okay. : FBI 1 18 MR. NAUTA: Yeah. 19 : What else is down there? Are SA 20 there offices or kitchens or? 21 MR. NAUTA: Good luck. That place is -- it's --22 that's -- there's multiple places down there. There's a 23 laundry room, there's another full office down there. And

> then that's -- you know, there's a lot of doors down there. SA Okay. This is why you're --FBI 2

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(00:50:48)

2 SA FBI 2 : -- telling us to ask the

3 Mar-a-Lago staff.

MR. NAUTA: Yeah.

SA : Yeah.

SA FBI 2 : Okay.

SA FBI1: But if it had President Trump's boxes and personal effects and such like that, would Mar-a-Lago staff be the ones moving it in these spaces?

MR. NAUTA: There's multiple rooms, I believe, where he gets his hairspray, his shampoo. Housekeeping is down there, their office is down there, so they store these places, and -- there's no organization as far as where their things are stored.

SA FBI1 : Okay.

MR. NAUTA: For personal items.

SA FBL1: All right. And another question. You, you said that you, you travel with the President when he travels?

MR. NAUTA: Mm-hm.

SA FBI1: Do you recall an event -- I'm just going to (indiscernible 00:51:35) -- do you recall an event where while on travel the President -- and this is after his presidency obviously. He displayed a docent that had classification markings on it to the people on the plane.

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MR. NAUTA: Yeah.

SA FBII: It kind of just provides a little bit of context for me to understand a little bit, like -- because -- like, the general culture of the area, of the environment.

MR. NAUTA: Yeah. I don't --

SA FBI1: 'Cause we're all talking about, like, a culture of securing classified information is what the intelligence community would feel a bit better -- feel better about. But if it is a culture where this would not considered --

MR. So if Walt tells you that --

MR. NAUTA: Yeah.

MR. _____ : -- he'd be disappointed to learn that that happened, it'd make the intelligence community feel better?

SA FBI1: Well, I think it would make us have a reason to be a little concerned if, if Walt's reaction (indiscernible 00:53:00).

MR. NAUTA: So you're looking to judge my character on that?

SA FBI1 : No. It would be more like if you said that was just kind of how things were done -- I, I think it would kind of --

think he worked in the operations department.

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know.

you know, it doesn't, it doesn't work as you'd imagine.

Mm-hm.

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FBI 1

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(01:01:09)

MR. NAUTA: Yeah.

have an idea of what it is we're trying to find the answers to, if you were, if you were in my position, like, what, what would you do? Like, who would you talk to? Like, what do you think would be ways that the information would, like, be there that I'm just missing 'cause I don't have that perspective of Mar-a-Lago, the people there, and things like that?

MR. NAUTA: I don't know to be honest.

SA FBI1 : Okay.

MR. NAUTA: Like, I know -- I wish I could help you, but I -- that's why I was a cook, right? I don't know.

SA FBI1 : Cook who ends up getting a call from the President, we're going to say the President, to come work for him. I'm not entirely convinced you are a cook.

I'm, I'm still -- I still have doubts that you

(indiscernible 01:01:56), like --

SA FBI2 : Light cover.

SA FBI: -- special ops or something like that.

MR. NAUTA: I wish I was something -- I wish I was Steven Seagal, but no.

SA FBI1 : Probably not right now. I hear he's got some, some stuff going on with this Russia stuff and --

(01:02:07)

MR. NAUTA: Oh, man.

sa set all right. So listen, just because -- you know, just because you don't have any the information to the questions that, you know, we're asking, or for all the questions that we're asking, you've been actually pretty helpful for a lot of them. You, you just -- I guess we're trying to convey that, like, if you hear anything about, about how these documents were stored or if there are any -- like, is -- it doesn't even have to be classified, National Defense Information, specifically. Like, any, any, any of those documents that are supposed to be kept in secure -- I mean, and you know this being in the military --

MR. NAUTA: Yeah.

Like, some people risk their lives for this intelligence, some people lose their lives for this intelligence, and there's a reason why we have to make sure that it's secure and staying safe. So if you hear anything, you can go direct to me or through, through your counsel. Anything you think that could help us, you know --and, and if your opinion on whether, you know, like -- fine, we'll, we'll skip past that, but I think -- I would hope that, that you would agree that if it was written down as law that --

but, you know, I'm saying it lightly, but we, we don't --

: Okay. But that's -- but we --

FBI 2

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(01:04:13)

SA FBI2 : -- take it lightly. We understand that that's -- we're putting you in a serious predicament.

MR. NAUTA: Yeah.

SA FBI2 : I mean, you're talking to the FBI, you're here with counsel. We also realize it's a very small office with very few people there, and, you know, it's -- there's a lot at stake here. But, you know, there's a lot -- not a lot we can say, but you can probably infer being that we did call you last week, you know, who we talked to and the orders important. We really want to get everyone's sort of side of this, like their story, and we are very well aware that you know -- and I don't mean this an insult, but, you know, you're overall very low on the totem pole with these sort of things in terms -- especially at Mar-a-Lago, right?

MR. NAUTA: Yeah.

SA FBI2 : And so we -- that's good and bad, right?

MR. NAUTA: Yeah.

The good is that there's probably -- like, most of what you do, from your own words, is, you know, you follow orders. You know, you're told what -- you know, what to do and when to do it, and you don't ask questions, and that makes you really good at your job.

(01:05:18)

SA FBI2: The problem with that is that sometimes people can take advantage of that. The other bad is sometimes those are the people that are left to answer, you know, very uncomfortable questions by the FBI, not the people giving the orders.

So thinking about that, you know, if there's anything that you want to answer differently or anything else that you think we should know -- and, you know, we are more than welcome to step out the room and give you some time, but it --

MR. ATTY: It seems like you all are trying to get at something, and I'm not sure that our side of the table is picking up on it, so maybe --

SA FBI 2 : Okay.

MR. ATTY: -- if you could be more pointed in what you're asking 'cause I'm, I'm confused. I think Walt's probably confused.

SA FBI 2: Okay. Well, let me ask you some very direct questions then. I'll just ask them again. Who knows you're here?

MR. NAUTA: Who knows I'm here? Just my counselor to my understanding, yeah.

SA FBI2 : Okay. Other than your counselor, were you, were you told what to say or what not to say --

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MR. NAUTA: I mean, that's as far I'll give you.

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Like, I--

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MR. NAUTA: I, I don't -- I'm not (indiscernible 01:08:08) -- you keep on asking me for more numbers. That's -- yeah.

SA FBI1: Yeah. But, I mean, at some point, it's like, at that point, I really don't even know, but if we get to 50, I'd be like all right, then 50s a safe number. Like, that's sort of, like -- I'm not trying to trick you. I'm just trying to see, like, where, where does it start to be less confident in where your -- you know, from confident. Right, so if, if 20 is where that line just sort of is, then we stop at 20, but if, if, like, 30 or 40, like, and you still have confidence, then --

MR. NAUTA: I mean, I'm pretty short.

SA : Uh huh.

MR. NAUTA: Right? I'm pretty short for a guy, so what I saw it's just over on the -- what looked like a storage -- a cage. It's just locked up as, you know, (indiscernible 01:08:41) and that's what I saw.

SA ERIT : Okay.

MR. NAUTA: So I'm already giving you a whole lot by saying there's more than ten, which, you know, maybe it was just a -- it could have been nine boxes and then you're going say I'm -- oh, you said it was ten.

SA FBI 1: No.

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: Okay. And in other boxes that --

and then I just go get it.

FBI 2

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(01:11:35)

sA FBI2: No, I think -- I think we're -- we appreciate what you're doing here from. You know, if you can think of anything else -- I know that, you know, by talking to us that maybe, you know, you -- after you leave here, you might remember something that -- some small detail. No detail to small at this point. You know, we welcome a follow-up. You know, you can reach out to your attorney, and you have our contact number, but --

MR. NAUTA: Yeah.

SA FBI2: -- you (indiscernible 01:12:05) or however you feel most comfortable. But, you know, we can't emphasize enough that the, the point of this is that -- you know, we're not trying to -- we're not the security violation police. We're not trying to find out --

MR. NAUTA: Right.

SA : -- who let these boxes go, who didn't check the right form, who forgot to put tape on them and do that stuff. Like, that's -- you know, I'm sure there's somewhere somebody nerding out over that. That's not us. What we're really, really trying to figure out is, you know, we've got about a year where boxes that, you know, contain classified information that, you know, are damaging to national security are unaccounted for, and our job is to protect the national security and sources and methods and --

(01:12:46)

SA FBI2: -- those are terms that get thrown around and used all the time lightly. But in this, in this instance it's not, because, you know, like even what was saying, it's a matter of, you know, we now have the task of, you know, going to those stakeholders and saying, you know, we've got about a year where your information is unaccounted for.

MR. NAUTA: Yeah.

SA FBI 2 : And, and, you know, you've served, so you understand what that means. We're not talking about intellectual property or that type of stuff. We're talking about protecting our troops, protecting, you know, human assets, that kind of stuff, and so we just need to figure, you know -- okay, figure out where they've been.

MR. NAUTA: I agree.

SA FBI2: And then the other question that we're trying to answer is if there's more. So anything, anything you can do to help us with that, either now or at a later time, you know, we welcome it.

MR. NAUTA: Okay.

MR. Can you give us a couple minutes?

SA EBI 2 : Absolutely.

SA FBI1 : Sure.

SA FBL2 : Take as much time as you --

clarify that, you know, to the extent that someone else

might think that this is a different room --

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2 MR. ATTY: -- here, but obviously he can't control
3 office gossip or assumptions --

MR. NAUTA: Yeah.

SA FBI 2 : Right.

MR. ATTY: -- that other people --

SA FBI2 : Right.

MR. ATTY: -- assume that he's here and then they start talking.

SA ERI2 : Okay. No that's, that's fine.

MR. So, so he can't read other's minds.

SA FBI 2 : Okay.

SA FBI1 : And like I said before, like whatever -- whoever you tell, like, I can't control that.

MR. NAUTA: Right.

SA THE : Like, you know, this, this -- we're not talking about classified information. Like, our, our discussion is not classified. So if it happened, again, I just, you know, we would just roll with it. But at least from our end, like, our professional promise to you is, like, I'm, I'm not going to tell the next person I sit down with across the table that I talked to Walt and he said this. I, I don't do that. It does not make your life easy and so I, I definitely don't do that. Okay?

MR. NAUTA: Thank you.

(00:03:16)

SA FBII: And on that matter (indiscernible 00:03:18) -- but, again, I appreciate you coming in here.

And I don't know how you feel about the whole not explicitly telling the President you're talking with us, and he may assume that you're doing something else, how that sits with you. I mean, I, I can, I can imagine --

MR. NAUTA: Yeah.

with anyone in particular just a lot of places. Like, there a little bit of, like -- there's a little bit of trust with your leader and, and you don't want to feel bad that you're kind of outing them or working surreptitiously around them and what have you. So, I mean, I -- again, we appreciate the position that you're in and, like, you know, if you do feel like there's anything that we -- we will work to being delicate about it as well. Like, if there is anything that comes to mind, our biggest thing is where were these boxes, are there still more.

MR. NAUTA: Appreciate that. Thank you.

SA FRIE : Okay. All right. Anything from you?

MR. NAUTA: No, sir.

SA FBI2 : No, I think, I think that was it, I mean, unless you -- like I said, unless you can answer -- you know our two big questions.

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I further certify that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this recording was taken, and further that I am not financially nor otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.

TRANSCRIBER

Transcriber

Auditor

May 16, 2023 Date

May 16, 2023

Within this transcript of proceedings, some of the names and/or technical terms are spelled phonetically, inasmuch as exhibits, files and supporting docentation were not made available to us for reference.